small savings are being badly affected and West Bengal is the worst affected State. Whether the Government of West Bengal has taken up those difficulties with the Central Government; and, if so, what is the response of the Union Government?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, with respect, this does not arise out of this question. I am not aware that collection of small savings deposits has been affected. I don't have the figures with me. But, I think, last time, when I saw those figures, collection of small savings deposits was quite good. But, I don't have the figures with me to answer this question now.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, consequent to this meeting, the credit policy was also announced. In view of the increase in the interest rates and also interest on deposits, is there any proposal before the Government to increase the interest on small savings and also on the Employees Provident Fund?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There is no proposal before the Government.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Mr, Chairman, Sir, I am given to understand that the employees of the nationalised banks, especially officers, are forced to work more than ten hours a day. Some of them have to even forego their weekly holidays. Tenth century labour practices are imposed on bank employees by the management of nationalised banks. Sir, I understand, this important issue has not been discussed with the Indian Banks' Association. I am also told that the Indian Bank employees are going on strike on this issue on 8th August. Sir, will the Finance Minister come forward to order a probe into the working condition of the employees of nationalised banks in our country?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, this supplementary does not arise out of this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question No. 124, Member absent.

*124. *The questioner (Shri C. Ramachandraiah) was absent. For answer vide page 31)*

ओएनजीसी द्वारा अतिरिक्त निवेश

*125. श्री राम जेठमलानी:
श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: ††

क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ओएनजीसी ने वर्ष 2006-2007 में स्वदेशी कच्चे तेल के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से 4800 करोड़ रुपये का अतिरिक्त निवेश करने का निर्णय किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो अप्रैल 2003-2004 से मार्च, 2006-2007 तक उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिये किये जाने वाले अतिरिक्त निवेश की प्रति वर्ष कुल कितनी धन राशि हो जायेगी;

(ग) क्या निवेश के उपरांत उत्पादन में वृद्धि का भी आंकलन किया गया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो चालू वर्ष के दौरान कितना अतिरिक्त उत्पादन होने की संभावना है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री मुरली देवरा): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सदन के पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) ओएनजीसी ने वर्ष 2006-2007 के लिए 4976.02 करोड़ रुपये का निवेश नियत किया है जिसमें विकास वेधन और पूंजीगत परियोजनाओं पर व्यय भी शामिल है। 2006-2007 के दौरान ओएनजीसी का कच्चे तेल का उत्पादन 27.35 एमएमटी होने का अनुमान है। ई और पी उद्योग में निवेश की प्रकृति ऐसी होती है कि निवेश और वार्षिक उत्पादन में उत्तरोत्तर वृद्धि के बीच सीधा संबंध बन पाना कठिन होता है क्योंकि प्रमुख प्रयासों में से एक प्रयास यह होता है कि जिन क्षेत्रों में काफी समय से उत्पादन हो रहा होता है, उनमें हो रहे नैसर्गिक ह्रास को रोका जाये और निवेश व वास्तविक उत्पादन के बीच समय का अन्तराल होता है।

(ख) अप्रैल, 2003-04 से मार्च 2006-07 के दौरान व्यय नीचे दिया गया है। इसमें विकास वेधन और पूंजीगत परियोजनाओं पर व्यय शामिल है।

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††सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री रविशंकर प्रसाद द्वारा पूछा गया।

वर्ष	निवेश (करोड़ रुपये)
2003-04 (वास्तविक)	2735.15
2004-05 (वास्तविक)	5589.29
2005-06 (वास्तविक)	4891.82
2006-07 (परिव्यय)	4976.02

(ग) ओएनजीसी के अधिकांश उत्पादनशील क्षेत्र पुराने होते जा रहे हैं और उत्पादन के ह्रासमान चरण में हैं । रिजर्वायर हैल्थ को बनाए रखने और जहां संभव हो अतिरिक्त उत्पादन प्राप्त करने, उत्पादन में स्वाभाविक ह्रास (सामान्यत: 6-8: प्रति वर्ष की दर से) को नियंत्रित करने के लिए लगातार निवेश किए जा रहे हैं।

(घ) वर्तमान वर्ष (2006-07) के दौरान उत्पादन किए जाने के लिए प्रत्याशित कच्चे तेल की मात्रा पिछले वर्ष 2005-06 के वास्तविक उत्पादन 24.404 एमएमटी के मुकाबले 27.35 एमएमटी होने की आशा की जाती है। यह वृद्धि (1) बीएचएल घटना के कारण उत्पादन क्षति के सुधार (2) निवेशों जिसके परिणामस्वरूप रिजर्वायर हैल्थ बेहतर हुई है, के कारण है।

Additional investment by ONGC

†*125. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:††

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be plased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC has decided to make additional investment of Rs. 4800 crore in order to increase production of indigenous crude oil in the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the total annual amount of additional investment made for increase in production from April 2003-04 to March 2006-07;

(c) whether the increase in the production post investment has also been estimated; and

(d) if so, the quantity of likely additional production during the current year?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.
††*The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad.*

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) ONGC has earmarked an investment of Rs. 4976.02 crore for the year 2006-07 which includes expenditure on development drilling and capital projects. The crude oil production of ONGC during 2006-07 is estimated at 27.35 MMT. The nature of investment in E&P industry is such that it is difficult to directly correlate investment to annual incremental production as one of the major efforts is to arrest the natural decline in fields which have been producing for a long time, and as there is a time lag between investment and actual production.

(b) The expenditure during April 2003-04 to March 2006-07 is given below. This includes expenditure on development drilling and capital projects.

Year	Investment (Rs. Crore)
2003-04 (Actual)	2735.15
2004-05 (Actual)	5589.29
2005-06 (Actual)	4891.82
2006-07 (Outlay)	4976.02

(c) Most of the producing fields of ONGC are ageing and in the declining phase of production. Investments are consequently being made to arrest the natural decline (normally @ 6-8% per annum) in production, maintaining the reservoir health, and gaining additional production wherever feasible.

(d) The quantity of crude oil expected to be produced during the current year (2006-07) is 27.35 MMT against last year's (2005-06) actual production of 24.404 MMT. The increase is due to (1) Restoration of production loss due to Mumbai High-North (MH-N) incident (2) Investment which have resulted in better reservoir health.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I have gone through the reply of the hon. Minister and I am a little troubled by the nature of the reply in as much as so much of amount of tax-payers' money is being spent

upon ONGC's exploration and to our utter dismay, we are told that a very, very substantial portion of this amount is being spent only upon arresting the declining reserve, namely, there is almost an admission by the reply that no new oil field is being discovered. Mr. Minister, we have allowed private operators in the field and as the Minister of Petroleum, you are also accountable to the House for their activity. Mr., questions are in two parts. Firstly, in spite of so many thousands of crores of rupees having been spent how many new wells have been discovered? Secondly, what is the extent of new discoveries of the private operators in the field? This is very important because, every day, we hear from the private operators that they have found new oil fields. We would like to have a reply.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, it is true that for the last three, four years, the extra production of oil indigenously is not rising. The ONGC produces about 25-26 million tonnes of oil every year, but, because these mines and blocks are old, and after 15-16 years, their life goes down. That is why there is less production.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I need your protection. It is a very serious question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, my question was very specific. My question was, what is the success rate of new discoveries by private players in the field? They are there in the field ...(*Interruptions*)... Please reply to that. It is important.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: The private sector people, who are engaged in oil exploration here, they produce about 4-4.5 million tonnes of oil, and as you know, the Government has a new policy. According to this policy, a lot of people are invited, and people from abroad are given the same chance. So, we are hopeful that in the coming year, we will have more production of oil.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, now, I would like to put my second supplementary ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: हो गया, second question हो गया, ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: That was clarification.

श्री सभापति: clarification हो गया, मैं allow नहीं करूंगा।

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, it is a welcome thing that Government is investing about Rs. 4,800 crores for oil exploration. But, my question is, what percentage of it is domestic, and what percentage is invested abroad, and in the investment abroad, don't you think that there are risk factors? If they are, what are the risk factors? What steps is the Government taking to ensure that these risk factors are overcome?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, we cannot depend only on the important oil. We have several schemes by which we are producing oil as well. ONGC Videsh is a 100 per cent subsidiary of the ONGC, and through it, we are getting oil abroad. We have contacts with several countries like Sudan, Russia, Algeria, Nigeria now, whereby, we are exploring oil. There is no problem of money. Wherever we have invested uptill now, they have given good results, and I am very sure that we have to supplement out needs by exploring oil abroad.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, he has actually not replied to my question. My question was: What percentage of Rs. 4,800 crores is invested abroad? Secondly, in such investments, are there risk factors? If so, how is the Government overcoming the risk factors?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have put the question of percentage. It is very difficult to reply to this question.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, from the reply given by the Minister, it becomes clear that during the last four years, the ONGC has spent something like Rs. 20,000 crores on exploration and development, and there is stagnancy in the production of oil ...(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put your question.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: I am coming to the question. Has this Rs. 20,000 crores gone down the drain? What has happened to Rs. 20,000 crores? ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, it is true that for the last 4-5 years, there is stagnanacy in the indigenous production of oil. Now, we are trying our best to see that this stagnancy is over, and oil will be produced now.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: This is no answer to my question. What is this? What has happened to Rs. 20,000 crores? ...(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Nothing will go on record.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, he is not replying to any question. Every Member even from that side is complaining. He is not replying to the questions. ...(*Interruptions*)... We must have your protection. ...(*Interruptions*). You must protect the Members, Sir. You should not protect the Minister! ...(*Interruptions*).

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, the Minister is obliged to give the same reply if I ask him to reply under the Right to Information Act. But he is refusing to give his reply. What is this, Sir? ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, he is giving the reply. ...(*Interruptions*).

श्री वेद प्रकाश गोयल: सर, प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा गया है कि 2006-07 में 4,976 करोड़ रुपए लगने वाले हैं। इस साल का एक तिहाई भाग निकल चुका है। अभी तक वे इसमें कितने रुपए लगा चुके हैं? इसी के साथ-साथ अगर हर साल 8 प्रतिशत ऑयल का प्रोडक्शन कम होता जाएगा, तो declining balance के ऊपर 8 प्रतिशत लगाते-लगाते 7-8 साल में तो यह zero हो जाएगा। अगर नए well नहीं बन रहे हैं, तो इसे कहां से make-up किया जाएगा,? मेहरबानी करके कृपया इसका जवाब दीजिए।

श्री मुरली देवरा: यह बात सही नहीं है कि हर साल ऑयल का प्रोडक्शन 8 परसेंट कम हो रहा है। पहले कभी-कभी ऐसा हुआ था। अभी इस साल के अन्दर यह 2-2.5 मिलियन टन बढ़ेगा। ओ एन जी सी में जो रुपया गवर्नमेंट ने लगाया है, खास कर exploration में, वह सही था। इसे लगाने से आज ओएनजीसी 24-25-26 मिलियन टन ऑयल उत्पादित कर रही है। अगर वह ऐसा नहीं करती, तो Sir, for meeting 75 per cent of our oil requirement, we are importing oil, and 20-21 per cent is met by ONGC. So, the money investment is totally safe. It was a right decision.

Tax on interest paid to senior citizens by Banks

*126. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the interest paid to senior citizens by

banks and post offices on investments made by them on Senior Citizen Savings Schemes has been made taxable income;

(b) if so, the reasons for bringing senior citizens under tax net even under the above Scheme which is meant exclusively for senior citizens without any tax commitment; and

(c) what are the reasons for bringing them under the tax net now when the scheme was introduced in 2004 and banks and post offices have so far not been deducting any tax on investments so made during the last two years by senior citizens.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Under the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, senior citizens are not unconditionally exempted from income tax. In order to provide reflief to senior citizens (described in the Schedule to the Finance Act as an indivisual who has attained the age of 65 years or more) a higher exemption threshold of Rs. 1,85,000 has been provided. Any income in excess of Rs. 1,85,000 would be subject to income tax.

The Senior Citizens Savings Scheme was introduced in 2004. It applies to persons who have attained the age of 60 years as well as to persons who have attained the age of 55years or more but less than 60 years, and who has retired on superannuation or otherwise. Having regard to the special requirements of senior citizens, a higher itnerest rate of 9% per annum is allowed under this Scheme. However, it was made clear that the interest of 9% per annum would be taxable.

No change has been made in the scheme since it was introduced in 2004. TDS is liable to be deducted by the person who pays the interest on the deposits, unless the depositor furnishes a declaration in Form 15H or in Form 15G, as the case may be, if the tax on his estimated income in the financial year is nil.

SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Sir, this is one of the successful schemes because it gives the highest rate of interest, and last year, it has mobilised Rs. 15,000 crores as deposits. Sir, in all the schemes applicable for senior citizens, the maximum age limit prescribed is 60 years, but

when it comes to Senior Citizen Savings Scheme, the Ministry is prescribing the age limit as 65 years with a higher threshold of Rs. 1,85,000/-. There have been demands for reducing the age limit, for this scheme, to 60 years. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what hurdles he has to cross to reduce the age limit from 65 years to 60 years in case of men and from 60 years to 55 years in case of women.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, this age is indicated in the Schedule to the Finance Bill which is passed by Parliamant. Sixty-five years is the age indicated in the Schedule. I take note of the Member's concern. Having regard to the overall need to protect revenues, we will consider it at an appropriate time.

SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Sir, my second supplementary is this. The hon. Minister has said in his reply that no change has been made since the introduction of this Scheme in 2004. But banks and post offices have already deducted the TDS in spite of giving Forms 15G and 15H. And it was only after the Ministry gave its clafication last month that the TDS had been done away with by banks and post offices. So, how is the Ministry going to repay the already deducted TDS?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, if anyone has deducted TDS either after Form 15G or 15H has been given, that is wrong. They will retify it in the next quarter when they account for the interest that is payable on the deposits. And we have already told them that if 15G or 15H is given, you cannot deduct TDS. TDS, Sir, is not an additional tax liability. TDS is only an advance tax liability. So, if the senior citizen is liable to pay tax, he will take credit for the TDS, and if he is not liable to pay tax at all, he will get a refund of the TDS. But the hon. Member is right that if 15G or 15H has been given by the depositor, neither the banks nor the post offices are entitlted to deduct the TDS.

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, the Income-Tax Act is a very powerful instrument for taxing income. But I would like to take this opportunity to request the hon. Finance Minister to take into consideration the plight of those who are in distress. Recently, it has been brought to our notice that the Mumbai blast victims would receive compensation from the Railways, the State Government and the Central Government. The Railways is paying on account of insurance. That will be exempted from income-tax. But the compensation received from

the State Government and the Central Government will be taxable. Now, you can appreciate when a man dies in such incidents he is not putting in any efforts on income. If that income is taxable, it is really a serious matter which I want him to consider.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I have received this representation. It is under my active consideration.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I would like to express my concerns through my questions. The senior citizens have been granted an additional higher rate interest of nine per cent. But, at the same time, that has been made taxable. I would not like to make a general comment as such. But in repect of a bigger part of them, I mean the overall majority of the senior citizens, particularly, those who are superannuated from the salaried class, taxation of their retirement savings is making their survival difficult in these days. So, my request is whether the Finance Minister, apart from all technicalities which have been already adopted in the Finance Bill, into which I would not like to go-it is a process; consideration is a matter of process-is going to consider, in view of the plight of the superannuated salaried senior citizens, whose number is increasing every year, giving some relief to them by exempting their deposits from taxation.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the general exemption for all the citizens is Rs. 1 lakh. For senior citizens, you will recall that the Parliament approved a higher exemption of Rs. 1,85,000. The exemption threshold is Rs. 1,85,000 which is a very hgiher threshold. It is only he who has an income, including his interest income, in excess of Rs. 1,85,000 is liable to pay income-tax. Besides that, there is another saving provision of Rs. 1 lakh whereby in approved saving you can put another Rs. 1 lakh and that is also exempted from income-tax. I think these are generous provisions. The schemes that replaced this scheme were giving seven per cent tax free. This is nine per cent taxable. If you assume that the average tax rate fo a senior citizen is 20 per cent, because it is over Rs. 1,85,000, I think nine per cent taxable at 20 per cent is slightly superior to seven per cent tax free.

SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Sir, if you see the answer, the exemption amount is Rs. 1,85,000 which is taxable. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to increase the amount

from Rs. 1,85,000 because it is for the welfare of the senior citizens. So, the exemption amount may be increased.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, this threshold was approved by the Parliament only in the last Budget. There is no proposal, at the moment, to increase the threshold.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, will the Minister consider the reduction of lock-in period of this taxable scheme? It should be reduced to a lesser period so that the people can deposit. Otherwise, for a senior citizen to lock-in for a longer period will be slightly difficult.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I don't know whether there is a provision for premature withdrawal which will entail a penalty. But there is no proposal, at the moment, to reduce the lock-in period because this is a high rte of interest. I will look into all those aspects.

Profit on petrol and diesel

*127. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the margin of profit of private sector oil-companies per litre of petrol and diesel; and

(b) the total amount of tax, duties, excise etc. on petrol and diesel per litre?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MULRLI DEORA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Based on the recommendation of Dr. Rangarajan Committee, implemented with effect from 16.6.2006, the pricing of petrol and diesel is on the basis of trade parity principle based on international prices. As per this methodology, the required price increase for petrol and diesel at the time of last price revision on 6th June 2006 (based on international prices of 1st fortnight of May 06) was Rs. 9.40/litre and Rs. 8.73/litre (Delhi prices) repsectively. However, to protect the interests of consumers, the price increase on petrol & diesel was limited to

Rs. 4/ litre and Rs. 2/litre respectively. The retail prices of petrol and diesel being lowr than their trade parity prices, the PSU oil marketing companies have incurred under-recoveries as estimated below:

(Rs. crore)

Particulars	2005-06	April-June 2006
Petrol	2,723	1,909
Diesel	12,647	8,822
TOTAL	15,370	10,731

Private sector companies are free to decide on the quantities and prices of petrol and diesel sold domestically or exported, and their profit margins would vary based on these commercial considerations.

(b) Total amount of tax, duties, excise, etc., on petrol and diesel per litre is given below:

(a) Share of duties and tax in retail selling prices of petrol (at Delhi)

Sl. No.	Particulars of Levy	Price (Rs. litre)
1.	Price without Customs Duty, Excise duty and Sales tax components	23.03
2.	Customs Duty @ 7.5% on import parity component included in RTP formula) (Based on 1st FN of July' 06)	1.39 (3%)
3.	Excise Duty (levied @ 8% +Rs. 13.00/litre plus 2% education cess)	15.18 (32%)
4.	Sales Tax	7.25 (16%)
5.	Total of Customs Duty, Excise Duty and Sales tax components (2+3+4)	23.82 (51%)
6.	Retail Selling Price (1+5)	46.85

Figures in bracket give the components of customs duty, excise duty and sales tax as per cent of S.No. 6

(b) *Share of duties and taxes in retail selling. Price of Diesel (at Delhi)*

Sl. No.	Particulars of Levy	Price (Rs. litre)
1.	Price without Customs Duty, Excise duty and Sales tax components	22.11
2.	Customs Duty (@ 7.5% on import parity component included in RTP formula) (Based on 1st FN of July' 06)	1.55 (5%)
3.	Excise Duty (levied @ 8% +Rs. 3.25/litre plus 2% education cess)	5.20 (16%)
4.	Sales Tax	3.39 (10%)
5.	Total of Customs Duty, Excise Duty and Sales tax components (2+3+4)	10.14 (31%)
6.	Retail Selling Price (1+5)	32.25

Figures in bracket give the components of customs duty, excise duty and sales tax as per cent of S.No. 6

श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी: माननीय सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह लिखित में उत्तर दिया है। मेरा प्रश्न यह था कि निजी और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल कंपनियों को पेट्रोल और डीजल पर प्रति लीटर कितना लाभ होता है? मैं मानता हूं कि 30 परसेंट प्रोडक्शन अपनी सार्वजनिक और निजी कंपनियां कर रही हैं और 70 परसेंट हम आयात कर रहे हैं, इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं। जितनी ये विदेश कंपनियां हैं, उससे ज्यादा शायद हम लोग प्रोडक्शन करते हैं, ओ एन जी सी की तरह हमारी जितनी कंपनियां हैं, वह छह गुना ज्यादा प्राफिट लेती हैं और अपनी बेलेंस-शीट में ये सभी कंपनियां प्रोफिट शो कर रही हैं। आज हम जो इम्पोर्ट करते हैं, उसमें प्रति लीटर आपने बताया कि 23/- रुपया हमारी कोस्टिंग है और उसके ऊपर कस्टम-डयूटी, एक्साइज डयूटी, सेल्स टैक्स वगैरह का और 23रु- रुपया लगता है। हमारे यहां पेट्रोल और डीजल, जो हमारे सामान्य फार्मर्स से लेकर अन्य लोग इस्तेमाल करते हैं, उनको इससे बड़ी तकलीफ हो रही है, क्योंकि यह इतना ज्यादा पेट्रोल का दाम और डीजल का दाम बढ़ा है। वर्ष 2001 में जैसा आपने बताया, आपको जो टैक्स प्राप्त हुआ वह 26 हजार करोड़ रुपये है और वर्ष 2006 में यह 90 हजार करोड़ से ज्यादा टैक्स आपको, सरकार को मिला है। तो यह स्पेसिफिक डयूटीज आप क्यों लगाते हैं? इससे जो दाम बढ़ता है, उससे लोगों को पेट्रोल और डीजल ज्यादा महंगा मिलता है और जिसकी वजह से आज पूरे देश में लोग मुसीबत में है।

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, the price of crude oil, which was 25-30 dollars per barrel, some years ago, has gone up to nearly 72-74 dollars, and the oil companies cannot afford such a high price. Despite that, the Government has not increased the prices, except Rs. 4 on petrol and Rs. 2 on diesel. On kerosene and LGP, not a single rupee has been increased. So, whatever is the excise and other taxes which are there with the Government, when the oil companies were losing money, the Government came out with a proposal by provding special oil bonds to the extent of Rs. 28,000 crores, which has helped the oil companies.

श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी: सर, आन्सर ठीक नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जयन्ती लाल बरोट: सर,पूछा क्या था और जवाब क्या दिया है? ...(व्यवधान)... प्रश्न क्या है और जवाब क्या देते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी: सर, मैंने पूछा कि प्रति लीटर कितना मुनाफा होता है, वह तो बोलते ही नहीं। एक्चुअली जो टैक्सेस लगे, उससे सरकार को वर्ष 2001 में 26 हजार करोड़ रुपए मिल रहे थे और आज वह 90 हजार करोड़ रुपए मिल रहे हैं। फिर भी आप बता रहे हैं कि घाटा हो रहा है।

श्री मुरली देवरा: सर, मुनाफा मैं आपको बता दूं कि यह प्राइस बढ़ाने के कारण मुनाफा नहीं, नुकसान होता है। तो ऑयल कंपनियां हैं, सबको नुकसान हो रहा है।

श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी: क्यों हो रहा है? यह ओ एन जी सी को तो मुनाफा हो रहा है।

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I have replied to it. I have nothing more to say.

श्री जयन्ती लाल बरोट: तैयारी किए बिना आते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: छोड़िए इन बातों को, ...(व्यवधान)... कौन तैयार होकर आता है, कौन नहीं आता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो॰ अलका क्षत्रिय: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूं कि क्या यह सच है कि निजी कंपनियां को देश में अंदर बेचने वाले और आयात किए जाने वाले पेट्रोल और डीजल पर कोई सबसिडी नहीं मिलेगी और साथ ही निजी क्षेत्र की कंपनियां पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतें स्वतंत्र रूप से तय करेंगी, इस शर्त पर ही लाइसेंस दिया गया था? इसके साथ ही मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि क्या एनडीए की गवर्नमेंट की पॉलिसी की वजह

से सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल कंपनियों से एक निजी क्षेत्र की तेल कंपनी का पेट्रोल और डीजल सस्ता था, जिससे सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल कंपनियों को नुकसान हुआ ?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I need a notice for this.

श्री सभापति: समझ में नहीं आया। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: सर, अलग से नोटिस चाहिए , क्योंकि यह सवाल रिलेटेड नहीं है, ऐसा उन्होंने कहा। ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो॰ अलका क्षत्रिय: सर, मंत्री जी ने मेरे प्रश्न का आन्सर ही नहीं दिया। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: जवाब लिखित में आएगा आपके पास। ...(व्यवधान)... लिखा हुआ आ जा जाएगा ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो॰ अलका क्षत्रिय: नहीं सर, इसमें कम्पनी को ...(व्यवधान)... मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: इसे छोड़िए ...(व्यवधान)... ठीक है, ठीक। ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाओ। ...(व्यवधान)... ठीक है, Please take your seat.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, my question relates to part (b) of the Minister's answer in which he has given the total amount of taxes, duties, excise, etc., on petrol and diesel. My question is, is it not true that because of the advalorem nature of taxes on petroleum products, the Government has got a bonanza from international prices going up, because every time the international prices go up, the Government's tax revenues also go up. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister about the exact amount of incremental revenue that the Government has gained from the ad *valorem* taxes because of international prices going up. ...(*Interruptions*)....

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: The Finance Minister can reply to it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: No, no; he has not...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI N. JOTHI: Why are you preventing him from giving the reply?

श्री सभापति: बोलिए, बोलिए। आप तो बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, उत्तर तो मंत्री जी को देना है, ये क्यों दे रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: You give me the answer ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, what is this?...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: The Finance Minister can reply to it.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, in the reply of the question, as was rightly said by the hon. Member, all the details, how much excise, all the details about how much import duty, how much costom duty and how much sales tax, are given very clearly.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: What is that?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: They are all given in the reply ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: I have asked about the increase in revenues. Please listen to my question and give the reply. Sir, the reason I say this is, his Ministry has given a list here. Government revenues from the oil sector - in the year 2002-03, Rs. 96,751 crores; in 2003-04, Rs. 1,04,375 crores; in 2004-05, Rs. 1,20,000 crores; and in 2005-06, Rs. 1,26,000 crores.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, these figures are from his Ministry ...(*Interruptions*)... So, what are you answering now?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I agree with you that there is an increase in the revenue of the Government because of the system of *ad volarem* taken by the Government.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: What do you mean that you agree with me? You cannot agree with me...(*Interruptions*)...What is this? Sir, let him correct his answer...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas Agarwal.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, let him correct his answer; otherwise, is he giving the correct information to the House? The Government has got added revenue because of international price-rise. Why is he not giving the information to the House? What is this?...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: सभापति महोदय, ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: What is this, Sir?

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। ये जवाब देंगे। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत: ये क्या जवाब दे रहे हैं, सर? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: तो करें क्या? जवाब तो ये देने वाले हैं। क्या मैं जवाब दूँगा? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत: सर, मैंने यह सवाल डायरेक्टली पूछा। ...(**व्यवधान**)... सर, ये उनकी मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ पेट्रोलियम के फीगर्स हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... ये ऐसे कैसे कर सकते हैं? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, बाद में देखेंगे। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: सभापति महोदय, अगर इन दोनों का विवाद समाप्त हो, तभी तो मैं अपना प्रश्न पूछूँ! ...(**व्यवधान**)... सभापति महोदय, अगर इन दोनों का विवाद समाप्त करवाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, these are figures given by his Ministry ...(*Interruptions*)... They have got a bonanza of Rs. 96.51,000 crores ...(*Interruptions*)...

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Sir, the hon. Member should put this question to the Finance Minister because it is about increase in the revenues of the Government ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आती कि आप दोनों मंत्रियों के बीच में लड़ाई कराने में इंटरेस्टेड हो या जवाब दिलाने में! ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: जवाब दिलाने में, सर। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: जवाब तो वही देंगे। ...(**व्यवधान**)... जवाब वही देंगे। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, these are the Petroleum Ministry's figures. What is the point in having Question Hour in this House, if questions are not answered? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: सभापति महोदय, ...(**व्यवधान**)... will allow me one minute? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री यशवंत सिन्हा: सर, इंग्लैंड में एथेल नाम का एक राजा हुआ करता था। वह कभी तैयार नहीं रहता था। ...(**व्यवधान**)... इसलिए उसका नाम 'एथेल दी अनरेडी' पड़ गया। ...(**व्यवधान**)... तो इस सरकार के मंत्री एथेल दी अनरेडी हैं, जवाब देने में कभी रेडी नहीं रहते हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: आप इसे छोड़िए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप बैठ जाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, making such comments on the Members who are asking questions, as if we are asking questions because we have no other work, is not correct. Sir, the same question was put by Shri Vijaykumar Rupani and Shri Ravi Shankar prasad repeated it, and we were expecting an answer. Unfortunately, the Ruling Party Members are trying to accuse the Opposition. We have no role in this. Let the Minister come out clear. She has asked the question. If there is a reply, the hon. Minister should reply it ...(*Interruptions*)...You can only put question, you cannot give answers on behalf of the Minister. No, you have no business...(*Interruptions*)... This is not the way. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री अमर सिंह: वृंदा जी के प्रश्न का जवाब दों। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: आप लोग बैठ जाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Please take your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Ramdas Agarwal, you put your questions.

श्री अमर सिंह: बिना तैयारी करके आते हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... वृंदा जी के प्रश्न का जवाब दो। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, we want an answer. I quoted the figures of the Ministry of Petroleum and natural Gas. ...(*Interruptions*)... Why is he not answering, Sir? ...(*Interruptions*)...Let him answer to my question...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: सुनिए, सुनिए। आप मुझे लिखकर दे दीजिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप लिखकर दे दीजिए इस क्वेश्चन के मामले में।

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: A series of supplementary questions is not being answered in this House...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: The Minister has not at all come prepared.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If we cannot get answers, let us postpone this question to some other day, Sir, ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, the hon. Member is right. (*Interruptions*) Customs, Excise, corporate tax, etc., if all these are added, then there is an increase in the revenue of the Government because of the *ad valorem* system. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: This is exactly the point. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI N. JOTHI: To what extent, Sir? What is the quantum? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him complete; otherwise he will forget everything. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI MURLI DEORA: In 2004-05, the revenue collection was Rs. 77,692 crores. In 2005-06, provisionally, Rs. 81,703. It is because of the *ad valorem* system, of course, the total revenue of the Government was up.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Then, why are they putting the burden on the common people?

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: सभापति महोदय, मुझे लगता है कि पैट्रोलियम मिनिस्ट्री पर सारे प्रश्नों का ठेका आज हमारी सदस्या श्रीमती वंदा कारत जी ने ले रखा है, वे किसी दूसरे को बोलने ही नहीं दे रही हैं।

श्री सभापति: बोलिए, बोलिए, प्रश्न करिए।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: हम भी तो यही प्रश्न पूछना चाहते हैं सरकार से जो आप पूछ रही हैं कि यह सरकार इस बात का जवाब क्यों नहीं देती है कि जब सरकार की आमदनी बढ़ी है टैक्सों से, तो वह टैक्सों में राहत देकर पैट्रोलियम प्राइसिस कम क्यों नहीं कर सकती, इसका स्पष्ट जवाब दीजिए?

श्री तारिक अनवर: यह आपकी सरकार के समय भी हुआ था। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: यह अलग बात है। इसको छोड़िए आप। इसका क्या मतलब है? ...(**व्यवधान**)... सभापति महोदय, यह जवाब नहीं है सरकार का। ...(**व्यवधान**)... सरकार का यह जवाब नहीं है ..(**व्यवधान**)... सरकार ऐसा जवाब देकर बच नहीं सकती। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

जो डीज़ल का दाम बढ़ा है, वह गरीबों की बर्दाश्त से बाहर हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... फिर जवाब यह दिया जा रहा है कि हम लागों ने भी बढ़ाए थे। हम कब मना करते हैं कि हमने नहीं बढ़ाए थे, लेकिन 4-4 रुपए नही बढ़ाए थे। हमने उतने ही बढ़ाए थे जितने ...(व्यवधान)... सरकार की आमदनी बढ़ी है, सरकार क्यों जवाब नहीं देती ...(व्यवधान)... क्यों नहीं जवाब दिलवाते इस बात का ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next, Question No. 128, please. (*Interruptions*)

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: क्यों नहीं जवाब दे पा रहे आप? ...(व्यवधान)... इसका जवाब दीजिए और एक श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी ने प्रश्न पूछा था आपसे कि पैट्रोलियम प्रॉडक्ट्स पर आपको कितना नफा या नुक्सान होता है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: अब आप बैठिए, मैंने दूसरा क्वेश्चन ले लिया है। प्रश्न संख्या 128.

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: और कितना फायदा होता है?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: No supplementary has been answered. ...(*Interruptions*)... In view of the situation that has arisen and as a lot of Members are showing interest, please allow a Short Duration Discussion on this very important issue regarding increase in revenue and the possible ways of making reduction in taxation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You send a notice to discuss it. ...(*Interruptions*)... Next Question.

New airport in Assam for Asian Safari

*128. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the a private Thai airline operator has proposed making the State part of an Asian Safari circuit and is interested in Building an airport in Assam;

(b) whether the Bangkok Airways is interested in building an airport near the Kaziranga National Park and other facilities to make Assam in Asian Safari Destination; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Sir, the Minister has given his reply in the negative. But the Chief Minister of Assam made a statement on 28th May that a private Thai Airways is proposing to make Assam State a part of an Asian Safari Circuit. The Bangkok Airways is interested in Building an airport near Kaziranga National Park and provide facilities to make Assam an Asian Safari Destination. I would like to know whether the Government has received any request from the Government of Assam for this private airport.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the question which the hon. Member has put is about a private Thai Airlines having written to the Chief Minister of Assam, I will be happy to look into it because I do not have any communication from that particular airlines. As far as we are concerned, we have an ASEAN policy where we have unlimited access to 18 destinations within India from the ASEAN countries. That was announced by the earlier Prime Minister and the present Prime Minister. So, if there is any request, we can consider their operations in Assam to the extent possible. Kaziranga, of course, is considered as one of the 18 destinations. Regarding building of an airport, I do not think an airport can be just built by any particular airlines. There has to be a specific proposal both from the State and the Centre. There are various aspects, which have to be considered before any approval is given. However, if there is some proposal and if it is for the development of Assam and tourism in Assam, the Government of India can always discuss and try to find ways of developing a safari circuit there.

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: I would like to know whether any permission has been sought by the State Government and whether the Civil Aviation Ministry will consider it.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, I just said regarding building of airports that it is not something as simple as allowing just because an application is made. There are various considerations. However, there are many

airports in Assam. I do not immediately have an answer as to how would be the airport closer to Kaziranga. But I am sure if there is a need, we can always look into various ways and means to promote tourism there.

SHRI SWAPAN SADHAN BOSE: I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that there is a lot of not only safari but religious tourism also and India is a tourtist destination. There has to be a clarity about the role of the State Governments and the Central Government in giving permission for building airports on BOT basis or what type of investments because there are security concerns in particular areas. There has to be clarity in the policy. I am sure, Sir, with Destination India today there is enough scope of private operators coming up. Let there be a discussion and consensus between the States and the Centre on clarity of position.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, there is no confusion in terms of policy as far as building of airports is concerned. There is a well laid out policy and according to that new airports have been made from time to time within the country by the State Governments or by the Airports Authority. Even now green field airports have been permitted in joint ventures. So, it is not something where there is a lack of clarity. If there is any specific proposal which the hon. Member would like to bring to our notice, we will be happy to respond to his concerns. But religious tourism or tourism in general in our country is on upward trend. It is being reflected in the healthy numbers. In fact, aviation, both domestic and international, is showing a very healthy trend in terms of growth. I am sure the hon. Member and the entire House will agree with that.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Bugetary support to PSUs for payment of salaries

*124. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are giving budgetary support to various loss making Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to clear the outstanding payment of salaries and statutory dues to their employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the budgetary support provided to each loss making PSU during each of the last two years for industries located in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Government provides non-plan assistance to Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) on case-to-case basis to supplement their efforts for payment of wages/salaries and statutory dues. Such assistance is given as non-plan loan to tide over the financial difficulties in CPSEs. As per available information, during 2004-05 and 2005-06 the Government sanctioned Rs.1804.21 crores for salaries/wages and statutory dues to a number of CPSEs as per details given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Government sanctioned Rs. 50.61 crores in the year 2004-05 and Rs.42.03 crores in the year 2005-06, i.e., a total of Rs. 92.64 crores, for the loss making CPSEs having their registered offices in Andhra Pradesh as per details given in Statement-II.(*See* below).

Statement-I

Budgetary support for wages/salary and statutory dues

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Ministry/ Department	CPSE	Wages/Salary 2004-05	Wages/Salary 2005-06	Total	Statutory Dues 2004-05	Statutory Dues 2005-06	Total	Grand Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation	State Farms Corporation of India Ltd.	—	—	—	32.76	10.00	42.76	42.76
2.	Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	4.50	—	4.50	—	18.80	18.80	23.30
3.		Bengal Chemicals & Pharm. Ltd.	—	0.61	0.61	—	5.00	5.00	5.61
	Total		**4.50**	**0.61**	**5.11**		**23.80**	**23.80**	**28.91**
4.	Department of Heavy Industries	Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd.	—	—	0.00	32.12	7.22	39.34	39.34
5.		Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Ltd.	18.15	23.40	41.55	27.57	15.60	43.17	84.72
6.		Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	1.23	2.10	3.33	0.72	0.18	0.90	4.23
7.		Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.	2.06	1.84	3.90	12.01	3.41	15.42	19.32
8.		Bharat Wagon Engg. Co.	5.78	5.42	11.20	3.32	0.70	4.02	15.22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.		Hindustan Cables Ltd.	34.27	62.79	97.06	70.84	25.75	96.59	193.65
10.		Hindustan Photofilms Mfg. Co. Ltd.	1.71	8.81	10.52	1.35	4.17	5.52	16.04
11.		HMT Watches	15.72	31.88	47.60	14.71	4.51	19.22	66.82
12.		Instrumentation Ltd.	7.32	1.46	8.78	26.32	0.68	27.00	35.78
13.		National Instruments Ltd.	2.48	0.58	3.06	1.42	0.13	1.55	4.61
14.		NEPA Ltd.	5.34	7.67	13.01	7.52	6.34	13.86	26.87
15.		Praga Tools Ltd.	2.21	2.56	4.77	0.76	—	0.76	5.53
16.		Triveni Structurals Ltd.	6.52	1.63	8.15	11.28	1.15	12.43	20.58
17.		Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.	3.76	2.48	6.24	1.30	0.54	1.84	8.08
18.		Richardson & Cruddas	0.74	—	0.74	0.87	—	0.87	1.61
19.		Cement Corporation of India	6.61	—	6.61	4.94	—	4.94	11.55
20.		Burn Standard Co. Ltd.	0.60	1.85	2.45	3.67	0.10	3.77	6.22
21.		Braithwaite & Co. Ltd.	—	—	0.00	1.11	—	1.11	1.11
22.		HMT Holding Co.	—	—	0.00	6.65	—	6.65	6.65
23.		HMT Machines Tools Ltd.	1.69	—	1.69	36.59	5.62	42.21	43.90
24.		HMT Bearing Ltd.	—	—	0.00	1.42	—	1.42	1.42
25.		HMT Chinar Watches*	4.99	3.15	8.14	0.04	1.10	1.14	9.28

26.		Tyre Corpn. of India Ltd.	—	—	0.00	4.07	—	4.07	4.07
27.		Heavy Engineering Corpn.	12.25	—	12.25	113.40	—	113.40	125.65
		Total	**133.43**	**157.62**	**291.05**	**384.00**	**77.20**	**461.20**	**752.25**
28.	Ministry of Shipping	Central Inland Water Transport Corpn. Ltd	12.00	18.00	30.00	—	44.53	44.53	74.53
29.	Ministry of Steel	Hindustan Steel works Construction Ltd.	71.89	—	71.89	—	—	0.00	71.89
30.	Ministry of Textiles	National Textiles Corporation							521.17
31.		British India Corporation Ltd.							36.00
32.		Bird Jute & Export Ltd.							5.20
33.		National Jute Mfg. Corporation Ltd.							271.50
34.		**Total**							**833.87**
		GRAND TOTAL	221.82	176.23	398.05	416.76	155.53	572.29	1804.21

*In addition , an amount of Rs. 8.83 crore was separately approved in 2005-06.

Statement

< . Budgetary support for Wages/Salary & Statutory Dues in loss making CPSEs of Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Ministry/ Department	Name of CPSE	Wages/Salary 2004-05	2005-06	Total	Statutory Dues 2004-05	2005-06	Totat	Grand Total
1.	Department of Heavy Industry	Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Ltd.	18.15	23.40	41.55	27.57	15.60	43.17	84.72
2.		HMT Bearing Ltd.	-	-	-	1.42	-	1.42	1.42
3.		Praga Tools Ltd.	2.21	2.56	4.77	0.76	-	0.76	5.53
4.	Ministry of Textiles	Tirupati Textiles Mills (NTC)							0.97
	Total		20.36	25.96	46.32	29.75	15.60	45.35	92.64

Inadequate supply of gas to two gas turbines at Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Station

*129. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantity of gas required to operate two gas turbines at Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Station (RGTPS), District Jaisalmer is inadequate;

(b) if so, the details of demand and supply in gas;

(c) how the shortfall is being met or proposed to be met; and

(d) by when the requisite quantity of gas will be supplied to run both gas turbines at full load?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATRUAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Station (RGTPS) has gas allocation of 0.75 million standard cubic metre per day (MMSCMD) and at present GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) is supplying this quantity to them. RGTPS is said to have a gas demand of about 1.12 MMSCMD.

(c) and (d) The exploration activities are going on in the area by Oil India Limited (OIL), Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and others, and in case any new gas is found, the same could be additional source for supply for RGTPS on mutually agreed terms and conditions between them and the gas suppliers. RGTPS may like to also explore other alternatives of fuel supplies.

Demand of States for transfer of dams

*130. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have demanded transfer of dams situated in their territorial areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of the Central Government in this regard?